

On the occasion of
World Interfaith Harmony Week
CULTURAL DIVERSITY 'EKATA'
Event Report
Submitted
to
United Nations
By
Gangaram Sangeet



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GangaRam Sangeeth Trust was established on March 2012 by Vinay Shindhe. Their first attempt to showcase was released of Music Album of Basava Vachana's in folk rock style which reached globally to all regions about Basava Philosophy. Ever since then GangaRam Sangeet has started focusing Music Art & Various Cultural Initiatives to spread the awareness through Socio-cultural Initiatives in and around Bengaluru Karnataka.

Key Message – EKATA 2021 -Cultural Diversity

Trustee, GangaRam Sangeet

Mr Vinay Shindhe welcomed the gathering both virtual and live. He mentioned about the cultural diversity in India and how each individual respects the other to maintain peace and harmony. He said how 'EKATA' is a small step taken towards inspiring and motivating Interfaith Harmony through a video launch, live music, dance and art performances. This was done with the objective of representing India and the World and how art forms can inspire, influence, and motivate the citizens. Further Mr Shindhe introduced the chief guests, Mr K. C Ramamurthy and Dr. Shalini Rajneesh.

Socio Cultural Event 'EKATA' 2021 On the UNs Interfaith harmony week

World Interfaith Harmony Week is an annual event observed during the first week of February. In 2021 it also marked the inaugural **International Day of Human Fraternity** on 7th February Sunday GangaRam Sangeet organized an initiative in line with the United nations World Interfaith Harmony Week called 'EKATA' which means Unity in Diversity. The foundation conducted this event to promote mutual understanding, respect, harmony, and cooperation among all people regardless of their faith. 'EKATA' was a one-day event for a duration of 1 hour and 30 minutes at the **Bangalore International Center (BIC)**, at 11:00 am, on 7th February, Sunday 2021. The Bangalore International Center (BIC) is an auditorium that gives the organizers the freedom to conduct the event and **stream it live Globally**. The event was conducted in a hybrid manner wherein participants watched it at the comfort of their homes through the Gangaram YouTube page or watched the event happening live by being present at the Bangalore International Center. At BIC there were nearly 100 people watching it happen and through Social media like Youtube and Facebook the video reached thousands of people across the world. The event 'EKATA' was graced by the presence of guests of honor Mr. K C Ramamurthy, Member of Rajya Sabha of Karnataka, Former Inspector General of Police and Chairman of CMR Group of Institutions and Ms. Shalini Rajneesh, (IAS) Additional Chief Secretary of Planning and Youth Department. 'EKATA' also had eminent personalities representing various art forms like Music, art and dance. The program began with the lighting of lamp invoking the presence of God. Post which Shri. Ram Kumar sang a prayer song for the program. Irrespective of the diverse faiths and castes it is vital to be a human being who empathizes with his fellow beings.



A promotional poster on the agenda of the World Interfaith Harmony Event, 'EKATA'

'EKATA' had the following programs:

- **Video launch on unity in diversity:** In order to promote IFH the GangaRam Sangeet choose to celebrate the Diversity of Indian Culture by remembering our Unity. Ms. Geeta Vijay Benagi intricately compiled the diverse faiths that people in India follow with a touch of art which exhibited a music composed and sung by Ms Geeta and a dance choreographed by Ms. Shraddha. This video is an artistic culmination of India's secularism, culture, and the diverse religions. It beautifully portrayed that religion does not matter but humanity does. It is vital to be able to help each other without considering any religion. Therefore, on the occasion of World Interfaith Harmony Week we launched the video with the objective of spreading awareness and the need to respect and accept all religions and live-in unity and peace to make this World a better place.
- **Live artistic painting:** In parallel to the Video launch in the background Dr Shravan painted an aesthetic image which depicted one tree branching out into different cultures which helps individuals to imbibe Diversity and be in Unity. It also conveyed the message that every faith has branched out from the same roots of humanity and philanthropy.
- **Live music performance:** It was a conclave of musicians whose melodious voices enamoured all the participants of the program. They sang about Unity and quoted famous saying by renowned personalities.
 - ✓ Quotes like: *Unity, to be real, must stand the severest strain without breaking by Mahatma Gandhi.*

- ✓ *Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much by Helen Keller.*
- ✓ *We must learn to live together as brothers or we will all perish together as fools- Martin Luther King, Jr*
- ✓ *Kindness is the golden chain by which society is bound by Johann Wolfgang.*
- ✓ *Even the weak become strong when they are united by Friedrich Schiller.*
- ✓ *Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success by Henry Ford.*
- ✓ *I can do things you cannot do. You can do things I cannot. Together we can do great things by Mother Teresa.*
- ✓ *If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together – an African Proverb.*

These quotes instilled in the minds of people the sense of Unity that helps attain harmony.

- **Live Dance Performance:** It was a graceful performance by the young and talented artists. They danced to the song, come back as Jesus, come back and save the world. This song meant how the world is in a state without peace and harmony in the name of religion and hence it calls on to God's from different faiths for rescue and also to make this world a better place and a place for all. The artists depicted the message in an elegant manner through their dance moves.

All the artists were facilitated by the Chief Guest, Ms. Shalini Rajneesh. Post which **Chief Guest Shalini Rajneesh (IAS) addressed the gathering** wherein she mentioned how the event was an exceptional treat. She also quoted, Thousands of words cannot match an artistic form like dance, art, music. She stated how this event conveyed to its best the message of Interfaith Harmony across the World. Shalini Rajneesh stated that as being Human beings we need to learn from nature the interconnectedness and interdependence which is evident from the food chain. She mentioned how every being in the Planet needs to coexist through this. She emphasized on the adherence to the United Nation Sustainable Development Goals which intends to make this Planet a better place to live in for the future generations. She also stated how this can be achieved through collaborated efforts and contributions for which a change in the mindset of the people is required. This can be achieved through reformative and transformative efforts in an individualistic manner which will bring about cultural harmony. A Change to bring Interfaith Harmony in the society and the World at large needs to begin from the family, at homes.

Chief Guest Message from Mr. Abrar Sarguroh :

Abrar stated how 'EKATA' was a great initiative wherein through art it conveyed the message of how we need to be United irrespective of our diverse cultures and faiths. He also mentioned how this initiative should go global.

Message from Ram Kumar Ji :

Shri Ram Kumar Ji quoted a Poet song by Dara Bendere All things on earth grow together without one doing harm to another and all doctrines in the world develop in parallel with each other without coming into conflict." This is an accurate expression of "harmony without uniformity." So we all need to be unity in order to achieve harmony.

The event was concluded with the Vote of thanks by Mr. Vinay Shindhe.

By the observance of World Interfaith Harmony, 'EKATA', GangaRam Sangeet intended to spread awareness about importance to build and promote the new concept of religious harmony that helps to meet the challenges posed by religious diversity in a globalized world. On the basis of recognizing religious diversity and differences, all religions should enhance mutual understanding and empathy through dialogue, shoulder the common responsibility of upholding peace and justice through cooperation, and foster intra- and inter-religious harmony and harmony between the religious community and the larger society. It is imperative to promote the principle of "harmony without uniformity" and learn to respect each other and jointly shoulder social responsibilities. The use of religion for ill purposes should be opposed and religious extremism should be guarded against.

Few promotional posters for the Interfaith Harmony Event 'EKATA'



A promotional poster for Video launch of the World Interfaith Harmony Event, 'EKATA'.

GangaRam Sangeet presents
Video Launch on
Unity in diversity of Indian Culture
This United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week

MUSIC

Vasu Dixit, Amrapali Shinde Gulati, Madhur Shinde, Mansoor Rahimat Khan, Shreekantha Swami

Stay tuned to watch the live Euphonious Music & Voices.

Sunday, 7th February, 2021
Time : 11:00 a.m.
Venue : Bengaluru International Center (BIC)
or
YouTube \ GangaRam Sangeet

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Dance Performances

Sagarika, Prakruthi, Shraddha, Nisha

Live Painting

Shravan

Stay tuned to watch the live graceful and alluring dance performances.
Also do make sure to watch the astounding painting
by the young and talented artist, Mr. Shravan.

Sunday, 7th February, 2021
Time : 11:00 a.m.
Venue : Bengaluru International Center (BIC)
or
YouTube \ GangaRam Sangeet

Promotional posters for the Live music, art and dance performance of the World Interfaith Harmony Event, 'EKATA'

GangaRam Sangeet presents
EKATA on
Unity in diversity of Indian Culture
This United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week

Guests of Honour

K. C. Ramamurthy
Member of Rajya Sabha, Karnataka
Chairman, CMR Group of Institutions
Former IG of Police, Karnataka

Dr. Shalini Rajneesh IAS
Additional Chief Secretary
at Planning & Youth Department
Government of Karnataka

- Inauguration of initiative & video launch EKATA - Unity & Diversity
- Live Music Performances by renowned Indian Musicians
- Live Performing Dance by graceful and talented Artists
- Live Painting by young and talented Painter

Sunday, 7th February, 2021
Time : 11:00 a.m.
Venue : Bengaluru International Center (BIC)
or
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A promotional poster on Chief Guests of the World Interfaith Harmony Event, 'EKATA'

Links of the event:**YOUTUBE LINK --EKATA -Unity in Diversity -by Gangaram Sangeet**

<https://youtu.be/ISnpXJuKZ-E>

✓ Gangaram Sangeet Instagram Page_
https://instagram.com/gagaram_sangeet?igshid=axx5r9aq3y88

✓ Video launched on Cultural Diversity Event, 'EKATA'
<https://youtu.be/cCeTypBHIrM>

✓ Gangaram Sangeet Facebook Page_
<https://www.facebook.com/GangaRamSangeet/>

✓ 'EKATA' promotional teaser.
<https://youtu.be/TXwP1gimSRc>

✓ Video launched for the Cultural Diversity Event 'EKATA'.
<https://youtu.be/ISnpXJuKZ-E>

Newspaper articles about the event, 'EKATA'

ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ

ಚಿತ್ರಾವಳಿ



ಗಂಗಾರಾಮ್ ಸಂಗೀತ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ವಿಶ್ವಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಸಾಮರಸ್ಯ ಸಪ್ತಾಹದ ಅಂಗವಾಗಿ ಹೊರತಂದಿರುವ ಸಾಂಸ್ಕೃತಿಕ ವೈವಿಧ್ಯತೆಯ ವಿಡಿಯೋ ಅನಾವರಣ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮವನ್ನು ಯೋಜನಾ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ಶಾಲಿನಿ ರಜನೀಶ್ ಉದ್ಘಾಟಿಸಿದರು. ರಾಜ್ಯಸಭಾ ಸದಸ್ಯ ಕೆ.ಸಿ.ರಾಮಮೂರ್ತಿ, ಗಂಗಾರಾಮ್ ಸಂಗೀತ್‌ನ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥ ವಿನಯ್ ಶಿಂದೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರರು ಇದ್ದರು

Article Translated: The article is published in Kannada in a newspaper called 'Prajavani'. It states how GangaRam Sangeet observed World Interfath Harmony Week through the event 'EKATA'. This article mentions about the chief guest for the event Ms Shalini Rajneesh, Additional Chief Secretary at Planning department and Mr. K. C. Ramamurthy, member of Rajya Sabha were present. Mr Vinay Shindhe, founder of GangaRam Sangeet and others were present.

CITY READ**Event held for World Interfaith Harmony week**

Bengaluru-based foundation Gangaram Sangeet, led by Vinay Shindhe, recently organised a socio-cultural event for World Interfaith Harmony Week. The event was called Ekata, Unity In Diversity of Indian Culture. It included performances of music, dance, and art, themed around cultural diversity. A recording of the event is now available on Gangaram Sangeet's YouTube channel.

Certificate courses for foreign languages

The Centre for Global Languages, Bengaluru City University has invited students to register for Certificate - I and Certificate - II courses in French, German, Japanese, Spanish, Korean and Chinese languages, for the academic year 2021. The duration is four months. Admission is on first come first serve basis.

Application forms are available at the department.

Music organisation gets new president

The Bangalore Gayana Samaja celebrated its 115th year of foundation on Feb. 14. One of the state's oldest classical music organisation, it elected Dr MRV Prasad as its new president on Sunday. Dr Prasad was elected as the president for the fifth time and Achutha Rao Padaki was elected as the vice president of the organisation along with nine other committee members.